Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraphs 0023, 0027 and 0038, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

[0023] The metal in the second type buffer layer is preferably selected from the group consisting of alkali metals, alkaline earth metals, rare earth elements, transition elements, and 3B group elements of the Periodic Table, and the alloy in the second type buffer layer contains a metal selected from the group consisting of alkali metals, alkaline earth metals, rare earth elements, transition elements, and 3B group elements of the Periodic Table. The metal or the alloy preferably exhibits electronegativity in the range of 0.2 to 2.0. The metal preferably is selected from Al, Ag, Mg, and Mn, and the alloy contains one or more metals selected from Al, Ag, Mg, and Mn.

[0027] The metal in the second type buffer layer preferably is selected from the group consisting of alkali metals, alkaline earth metals, rare earth elements, transition elements, and 3B group elements of the Periodic Table, and the alloy in the second type buffer layer contains a metal selected from the group consisting of alkali metals, alkaline earth metals, rare earth elements, transition elements, and 3B group elements of the Periodic Table. The metal or the alloy preferably exhibits electronegativity in the range of 0.2 to 2.0. The metal preferably is selected from Al, Ag, Mg, and Mn, and the alloy contains one or more metals selected from Al, Ag, Mg, and Mn.

[0038] The second type buffer layer can be composed of a metal selected from a group consisting of alkali metals, alkaline earth metals, rare earth metals, transition metals, and 3B group elements of the Periodic Table, or an alloy containing metals selected from this group. A metal or an alloy composing the second type buffer layers can be selected from materials that have a tendency to

incorporate oxygen or a tendency to be oxidized. That kind of material can effectively protect an organic EL layer against oxygen. Accordingly, a metal or an alloy favorably used in the invention preferably exhibits electronegativity in a range of 0.2 to 2.0, more preferably 0.2 to 1.6, and most preferably 0.2 to 1.0. Preferred materials include alkaline earth metals such as Be, Mg, Ca, Sr, and Ba that are known as contact getters and alloys containing these metals; rare earth elements such as Dy, Er, and Yb and alloys containing these elements; and oxygen adsorptive transition elements such as Ti, V, and Zr that are known as dispersion getters and alloys containing these elements.